



# Heelands School Spring 1 Newsletter 2018



Dear Parents and carers,  
I hope that you all enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing break and wish you an excellent 2018!

## Christmas fun

As usual, we all had a great time with the nativity productions, the party, disco, Santa and Colonel Custard our entertainer and this year we also enjoyed the KS1 trip to the pantomime which was fantastic - two of our children got to go on stage and take part in it which was really exciting! Many thanks as always to staff, past and present, who help to organise these lovely events and make Christmas so special and thank you for your kind donations to 'Harry's Rainbow' charity, the collection raised £90!

## The Playground Clock

Many thanks to Friends of Heelands who bought the wonderful playground clock for us, a brilliant resource for learning to tell the time and a very clear reminder for parents when you're late for school.

## Attendance

Leading on from being late for school, I thought parents might be interested in our attendance and lateness figures for each class for the Autumn term. The government states that 96% attendance is the norm, our whole school figure is 94% so we are significantly below the national expectation. I'm sure you will be as shocked as I am by the number of occasions that children arrive late for school, it causes such a disruptive start to the day for everyone.

	Autumn Term Attendance	Number of lates
Monkeys	93%	33
Tigers	94%	66
Lions	94%	47
Elephants	93%	58
Zebras	93%	92
Giraffes	96%	43

Well done to Giraffes for having the highest attendance last term and to Monkeys for the least number of lates.

### Internet Safety

Year 2 had an internet safety morning today led by Milton Keynes Safety Centre. Their staff asked if any children played computer games like Call of Duty or Grand Theft Auto and were extremely surprised and shocked to discover that half of Year 2 said they had. The staff said this is an extremely high percentage compared to other schools they've visited and asked me to remind parents to ensure children use computers and the internet at an age appropriate level. The PEGI rating on games reflects the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty and is intended to protect children from inappropriate content. You may want to check with your child to ensure they're not accessing these games without your knowledge.

### After School Clubs

After School clubs begin next week. This is a continuation of last half-term's clubs, please note that children should be **collected** at **4pm**. If you are regularly late to collect your child they will be withdrawn from the club.

**Please keep these dates in a safe place, we will send you further information about individual events nearer the time.**

Values Visit - Co-operation	Tuesday January 9 <sup>th</sup>	2.15
Zebras Class Assembly	Wednesday January 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15
Giraffes Class Assembly	Wednesday January 31 <sup>st</sup>	9.15
Parent Consultations	Tuesday February 6 <sup>th</sup>	3.30 to 5.30
Parent Consultations	Wednesday February 7 <sup>th</sup>	5.30 to 7.30
Last day of half-term	Friday February 9 <sup>th</sup>	
Return to school	Monday February 19 <sup>th</sup>	
Values Visit - Self-belief	Tuesday February 20 <sup>th</sup>	2.15
Rainbows, Brownies and Cubs -Wear your uniform to school day	Thursday February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	
Last day of Spring term	Friday March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	

If you need any further information about anything in this letter, please talk to any member of staff who will be pleased to help you.

Best wishes,  
Lesley Barnard  
Headteacher